

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

CONTACT: SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS 316-660-9370 FAX: 316-383-7509

August 12, 2003 Contact: Kristi Zukovich

316-660-9370

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Nile Virus in Sedgwick County

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – Last week, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment confirmed that birds and mosquitoes collected in Sedgwick County tested positive for West Nile Virus. There have been no human cases reported in Sedgwick County, but the Sedgwick County Health Department wants to remind you to continue to take precautions.

The risk of contracting West Nile Virus is minimal and about 80 percent of those who actually contract the virus never even know it. Attached is a fact sheet on the West Nile Virus and precautions people can take.

"We know that this virus is here to stay and we understand that precautions should be taken," said Sedgwick County Commission Chairman Tim Norton. "Sedgwick County is fully prepared to handle this virus and keep the citizens of Sedgwick County safe."

For more information on West Nile Virus, contact the Sedgwick County Health Department at 660-7392, or visit our website at www.sedgwickcounty.org.

-end-